



FATHER AND SONS—Steve Gaal (right) and his four sons are shown about to start their swim across the Golden Gate yesterday. The boys are (left to right) Kenneth, 13; Roger, 14; Philip, 18, and Stephen, 19. The father, a San Francisco electrical contractor, made the same swim in 1926, but was beaten by several minutes by his two elder sons yesterday.

—San Francisco Examiner Photo.

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5 Members of Gaal Family Swim Across Golden Gate

The waters of the Golden Gate were conquered by five male members of the aquatic Gaal family yesterday, as they swam from Fort Point to the Marin County shore.

For Steve Gaal Sr., 47 year old electrical contractor of 247 Ralston Street, it was the fulfillment of a longstanding dream.

In 1926, as a young man of 20, Gaal swam the Golden Gate in one hour and thirty-one minutes. Yesterday his time was better—one hour and ten minutes—but two of his four sons beat him across.

Phil Gaal, 18, a freshman at the University of California, was first to reach the Marin side in one hour and two minutes.

Steve Jr., 19, was second with one hour and five minutes.

Roger, 14, finished behind his father in one hour and sixteen minutes, and the baby of the family, Ken, 13, made it in one hour and twenty-one minutes.

"Conditions were wonderful," said the delighted Gaal.

"If I had to find fault with anything it would be with the ebb tide which carried Ken about seventy-five yards off course.

"We knew that we'd make it when we started out. Even if we didn't, we each had a skiff beside us just in case."

When asked if the family swim would be an annual affair, Gaal replied that "It's up to Uncle Sam. He's taken a great liking to Phil and Stevey."